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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/444,356	11/18/1999	DAVID P. CATANOSO	2138-991562	8537

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EXAMINER

WONG, ALLEN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2613

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DATE MAILED: 03/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/444,356

Applicant(s)

CATANOSO, DAVID P.

Examiner

Allen Wong

Art Unit

2613

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-12,18 and 26-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-12,18 and 26-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/4/04 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 18 and 26-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonesh (6,046,762) and Lacombe (5,309,144) in view of Goldberg (6,526,158).

Regarding claim 1, Sonesh discloses a video production system, comprising:
at least one video source, and an audio source electronically linked to the first capture card, wherein the video source is one of a video camera and a digital camera,

Art Unit: 2613

and the audio source is a microphone (fig.3, element 309 is the video camera that happens to produce digital images and element 308 is the audio source microphone as disclosed in col.9, ln.25);

a first capture workstation containing a first video capture card and a first media control interface card (fig.1, note "Agent Workstation" can be considered the capture workstation, and fig.3 specifically describes the agent workstation, where the first video capture card 305 and the first media control interface card 304, and also element 302 is linked to the network and the internet 311 via element 301);

at least one first monitor, electronically linked to the first media control interface card (fig.3, note monitor 306 is electronically linked to first control media control interface 304);

a network hub, electronically linked to the capture workstation (fig.1, note element 113, the "Internet", is connected to ACD computer which is connected to various network links like elements 111 and 112, and these elements permit the linkage of the "Agent Workstation", ie.capture workstation, and the "Remote Agent Workstation", ie.playback workstation);

a playback workstation, containing a second video capture card and a media control interface card, the playback workstation being electronically linked to the network hub (fig.1, note "Remote Agent Workstation" can be considered the playback workstation, and fig.4 specifically describes the remote agent workstation, where the second video capture card 405 and a second media control interface card 404, and also element 402 is linked to the network 411);

at least one second monitor, electronically linked to the second media control interface card (fig.4, note second monitor 406 is linked to second media control interface card 404);

at least one device for the production of video materials, electronically linked to said second video capture card (fig.4, element 409 is a video camera or a video production device that is linked to the second video capture card 405); and

an input connection and an output connection electronically linked to the capture workstation, wherein the input connection is configured to receive a first signal from a sensor and the output connection is configured to transmit a second signal to an external device (fig.1, note "Agent Workstation" can be considered the capture workstation, and fig.3 specifically describes the agent workstation, where the first video capture card 305 and the first media control interface card 304, and also element 302 is linked to the network and the internet 311 via element 301, where input connection has the camera 309, which can be considered a sensor since it can sense and obtain image data, and the output connection can be a network adapter 302, the internet 311, and the monitor 306 since the data can be transferred to an external device, where monitor element 306 is an external device); and

a storage device for receiving an image from the first capture workstation and storing the image in a digitized format (see fig.1, col.9, ln.34-62, and note fig.3, 301 has video storage device such as a harddisk); and

Art Unit: 2613

a database for storing data pertaining to the image (see fig.1, col.9, ln.34-62, and note fig.3, 301 has video storage device such as a harddisk where a database is in the harddisk).

Sonesh does not specifically disclose the use of wherein the sensor is one of a proximity sensor, a limit switch, and/or a distance sensor. However, Lacombe teaches the use of wherein the sensor is one of a proximity sensor, a limit switch, and/or a distance sensor (col.2, ln.60 to col.3, ln.3 and col.4, ln.37-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Sonesh and Lacombe as a whole for providing an inexpensive, practical, precise, robust means of intrusion detection in security and surveillance applications in public and private places (col.3, ln.35-44).

Sonesh and Lacombe do not specifically disclose the video source and audio source installed on an amusement ride environment. However, Goldberg teaches the use of a video camera, still camera and microphones can be installed on an amusement ride (col.4, ln.15, fig.2, camera 63 captures digital still images in an amusement ride; col.18, ln.6-8 and fig.7 shows video camera 157 captures digital images and microphone 158 captures audio associated with the video camera 157 in an amusement ride), transfer images to multiple locations (see fig.6b and note multiple printers and multiple distribution stations can be applied for transferring images of the amusement ride to multiple locations remotely and printing out images onto paper), and storage into digital media (col.18, ln.40-45, Goldberg discloses storage of video and still images of the amusement ride into video tape or DVD discs). Therefore, it would have been

Art Unit: 2613

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Sonesh, Lacombe and Goldberg for permitting the images to be distributed in a theme park in an inexpensive, low cost manner, enhancing the experience of an amusement ride, and the conveniently capturing images in difficult positions for viewing (col.2, ln.21-40).

Note claims 26, 28 and 30-31 have similar corresponding elements.

Regarding claims 2, 17 and 21, Sonesh discloses the switching devices between the at least one video source and the first capture card (note fig.3, CPU 301 communicates via bus 310 where the CPU acts as the switching device for interactively communicating with elements 302-309 and 311). Further, since Sonesh's figure 3 discloses the interactivity of the CPU with the other essential elements 302-309 and 311, clearly, the CPU 301 has sensors for permitting the interactivity of the CPU with the other elements 302-309 and 311, where the audio device 308 and the video device 309 can be the switching devices from among other devices.

Regarding claim 3, Sonesh discloses the digital to analog converter at the capture workstation (Sonesh must disclose the digital to analog converter for display).

Regarding claim 4, Sonesh discloses the manual controls at the capture workstation (fig.3, element 307 has a keyboard and mouse for permitting manual controls).

Regarding claim 6, Sonesh discloses the playback workstation has a modem (fig.4, element 402).

Regarding claims 7, 10-11 and 27, Sonesh discloses the network connection of the video production system with a network hub (fig.1, element 113 is a network and

Art Unit: 2613

that the ACD multimedia element 110 serves as a central connection, also note that both agent workstation and remote agent workstation have network connections).

Regarding claim 8, Sonesh discloses a first monitor, a first keyboard and a first mouse electronically linked to the capture workstation (fig.3, note elements 306-307) and a second monitor, a second keyboard and a second mouse electronically linked to the playback workstation (fig.4, note elements 406-407).

Regarding claim 9, it would have been inherent or extremely obvious for Sonesh to include a backup power supply otherwise the system would not function without proper reinforcement during emergencies such as power outages and blackouts.

Regarding claim 12, the Examiner takes Official Notice. The use of a printer in a computer is a standard accessory that can be added for convenience for printing displayed information. Further, if one is not convinced, then one can quickly peruse Weiss (US 5,611,730), in column 7, lines 25-27. Also, Kraft's (US 5,682,301) figure 1 teaches that a printer is connected to a printer (col.2, ln.49-53). Clearly, it is well known to one ordinary skilled in the art to use a printer in a computer for conveniently printing displayed information.

Regarding claims 18, 29 and 32-34, Sonesh discloses the insertion of prerecorded video clips on the video media (see fig.1, col.9, ln.34-62, and note fig.4 is the remote agent workstation that is also considered as the playback workstation, where the prerecorded video clips and images are stored in the computer 401 where it can be stored harddisk, standard storage devices, etc.).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen Wong whose telephone number is (703) 306-5978. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays to Thursdays from 8am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Kelley can be reached on (703) 305-4856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Allen Wong
Examiner
Art Unit 2613

AW
3/15/04